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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/437,567      | 11/10/1999  | JERRY G. SEARE       | 12344.2USC1         | 8168             |

23552            7590            06/18/2002  
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|                  |
|------------------|
| EXAMINER         |
| POINVIL, FRANTZY |

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| 3628     |              |

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The request for deferral/suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103 has been approved.

Art Unit: 3628

**DETAILED ACTION**

*Interference*

1. The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest “grouping the validated at least one of a plurality of data records to an episode treatment category based upon the pre-defined relationship, each episode treatment category having a dynamic time window defining a time period during which validated at least one of plurality of data records may be grouped to an episode treatment category taken alone or in combination with a computer-implemented process for processing medical claims.
2. All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.
- 3.

*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz Poinvil, whose telephone number is (703) 305-9779. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.  
The fax phone number for this Art Unit is (703) 305-7687.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-1113.

FP

11Jun02

*F Poinvil*  
**Frantzy Poinvil**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 3628**